## IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims have been presented whether or not an amendment has been made.

1.      (Currently amended)  A method, comprising the steps of:

providing a set of predetermined function definitions which are different, at least one of said predetermined function definitions defining a function for manipulating image data;

storing a project definition that is operable when executed to process said image data and includes: a plurality of function portions which each correspond to one of said function definitions in said set, and which each define at least one input port and at least one output port that are functionally related according to the corresponding function definition; a further portion which includes a source portion identifying a data source and defining an output port through which said image data from the data source can be produced, and which includes a destination portion identifying a data destination and defining an input port through which said image data can be supplied to the data destination; and binding information which includes binding portions that each associate a respective said input port with one of said output ports; and ports;

displaying a project window that includes a graphical representation of said project definition;

allowing a user to modify said project definition by interacting with said graphical representation using a pointing tool; and

automatically initiating execution of said project definition in response to a change to said image data in said data source. source;

wherein said execution of said project definition operates at least in part to manipulate a graphical aspect of said image data.

2.      (Currently amended)  A method according to Claim 1, including the steps of:

causing said data source to automatically generate a trigger in response to a change to said image data therein;

causing said data source to automatically transmit said trigger through a communications link; and

responding to receipt of said trigger through said communications link by effecting said initiating of execution of said project definition.

3.      (Original)  A method according to Claim 2, including the step of expressing said trigger in a public communication protocol.

4.      (Original)  A method according to Claim 3, including the step selecting as said public communication protocol the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) protocol.

5.      (Original)  A method according to Claim 2, including the step of configuring said communications link to include a network.

6.      (Original)  A method according to Claim 5, including the step of configuring said network to include a portion of the Internet.

7.     (Currently amended)  A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program which recognizes a set of predetermined function definitions that are different, at least one of said predetermined function definitions defining a function for manipulating image data, said program being operable when executed to facilitate:

storing of a project definition that is operable when executed to process said image data and includes: a plurality of function portions which each correspond to one of said function definitions in said set, and which each define at least one input port and at least one output port that are functionally related according to the corresponding function definition; a further portion which includes a source portion identifying a data source and defining an output port through which said image data from the data source can be produced, and which includes a destination portion identifying a data destination and defining an input port through which said image data can be supplied to the data destination; and binding information which includes binding portions that each associate a respective said input port with one of said output ports; and ports;

displaying of a project window that includes a graphical representation of said project definition;

allowance of a user to modify said project definition by interacting with said graphical representation using a pointing tool; and

automatic initiation of execution of said project definition in response to a change to said image data in said data source. source;

wherein said execution of said project definition operates at least in part to manipulate a graphical aspect of said image data.


8.     (Currently amended)  A computer-readable medium according to Claim 7, wherein said program is operable when executed to effect said automatic initiation of execution in response to receipt through a communications link of a trigger automatically generated and transmitted by said data source in response to a change to said image data therein.

9.    (Original)  A computer-readable medium according to Claim 8, wherein said trigger is expressed in a public communication protocol, and wherein said program is operable when executed to accept said trigger in said public communication protocol.

10.    (Original)  A computer-readable medium according to Claim 9, wherein the public communication protocol in which said trigger is expressed is the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) protocol, and wherein said program is operable when executed to accept said trigger in said eXtensible Markup Language protocol.

11.     (Currently amended)  A method, comprising the steps of:

providing a set of predetermined function definitions which are different, at least one of said predetermined function definitions defining a function for manipulating image data;

storing a project definition that is operable when executed to process said image data and includes: a plurality of function portions which each correspond to one of said function definitions in said set, and which each define at least one input port and at least one output port that are functionally related according to the corresponding function definition; a further portion which includes a source portion identifying a data source and defining an output port through which said image data from the data source can be produced, and which includes a destination portion identifying a data destination and defining an input port through which said image data can be supplied to the data destination; and binding information which includes binding portions that each associate a respective said input port with one of said output ports; and ports;

displaying a project window that includes a graphical representation of said project definition;

allowing a user to modify said project definition by interacting with said graphical representation using a pointing tool; and

automatically initiating execution of said project definition in response to receipt through a communications link of a trigger expressed in a public communication protocol. protocol;

wherein said execution of said project definition operates at least in part to manipulate a graphical aspect of said image data.


12.     (Original)  A method according to Claim 11, including the step of selecting as said public communication protocol the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) protocol.


13.     (Original)  A method according to Claim 11, including the step of configuring said communications link to include a network.


14.     (Original)  A method according to Claim 13, including the step of configuring said network to include a portion of the Internet.

15.     (Original)  A method according to Claim 13, including the step of causing a network browser program to respond to a manual input event by effecting the transmission of said trigger through said communications link.

16.     (Currently amended)  A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program which recognizes a set of predetermined function definitions that are different, at least one of said predetermined function definitions defining a function for manipulating image data, said program being operable when executed to facilitate:

storing of a project definition that is operable when executed to process said image data and includes: a plurality of function portions which each correspond to one of said function definitions in said set, and which each define at least one input port and at least one output port that are functionally related according to the corresponding function definition; a further portion which includes a source portion identifying a data source and defining an output port through which said image data from the data source can be produced, and which includes a destination portion identifying a data destination and defining an input port through which said image data can be supplied to the data destination; and binding information which includes binding portions that each associate a respective said input port with one of said output ports; and ports;

displaying of a project window that includes a graphical representation of said project definition;

allowance of a user to modify said project definition by interacting with said graphical representation using a pointing tool; and

automatic initiation of execution of said project definition in response to receipt through a communications link of a trigger expressed in a public communication protocol. protocol;

wherein said execution of said project definition operates at least in part to manipulate a graphical aspect of said image data.


17.     (Original)  A computer-readable medium according to Claim 16, wherein the said public communication protocol in which the trigger is expressed is the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) protocol, and wherein said program is operable when executed to accept said trigger in said eXtensible Markup Language protocol.